



## Brandworkz 8.6 Release Notes

### New infrastructure brings speed and stability

Brandworkz 8.6 brings significant infrastructure changes to the underlying file storage of your Brandworkz system. This long-awaited release involved the migration of over **100 million files** to our new storage system, AWS S3. Our new storage infrastructure has been built to deliver performance and stability improvements to the uploading and transcoding of assets within Brandworkz.

### Why move to AWS S3

Besides the inherent benefits of AWS S3<sup>1</sup> such as data durability, speed and scale, one of the main drivers for moving storage system, is to enable the use of various other AWS services. The first one we are using is AWS Video Transcoding, and future releases will make use of various additional services such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

### Asset upload improvements

You will notice a few changes when it comes to uploading assets to your site. One of the major overhauls we have been undertaking in Brandworkz 8.6 is with file uploads and storage. With this release, you will notice improved upload times from anywhere in the world. Not only will your larger files get there quicker, but you can also upload more files in one go.

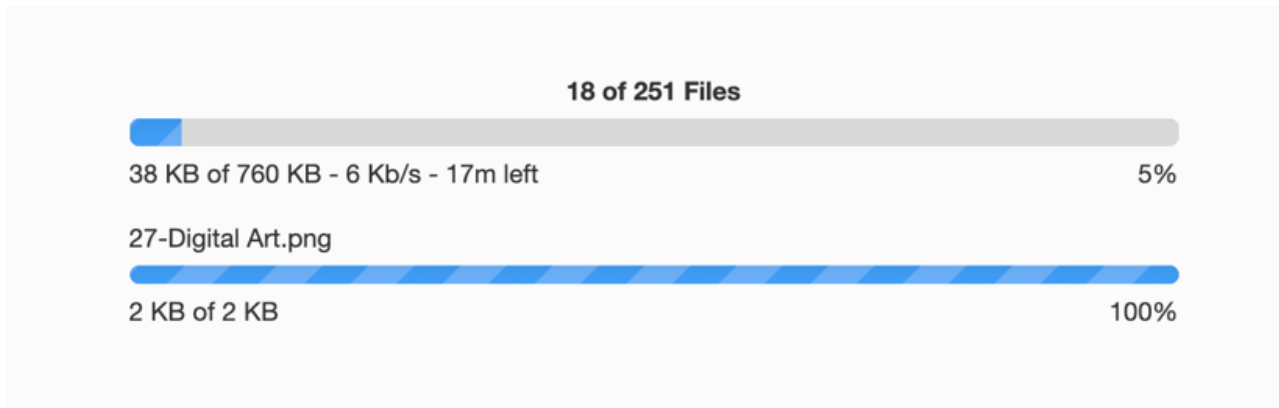
We have also introduced the ability for users to upload folders directly from their desktop or other file systems. This was an often-requested feature that was not possible until now, so we are delighted to introduce it in our first release on AWS S3.

While we at it, we also made some changes to what you see while your files are uploading. Gone are the placeholder thumbnails and instead we have added a progress bar that gives you a much more unambiguous indication of how long your upload has left. You will also see improved messaging if an asset doesn't upload for some reason.

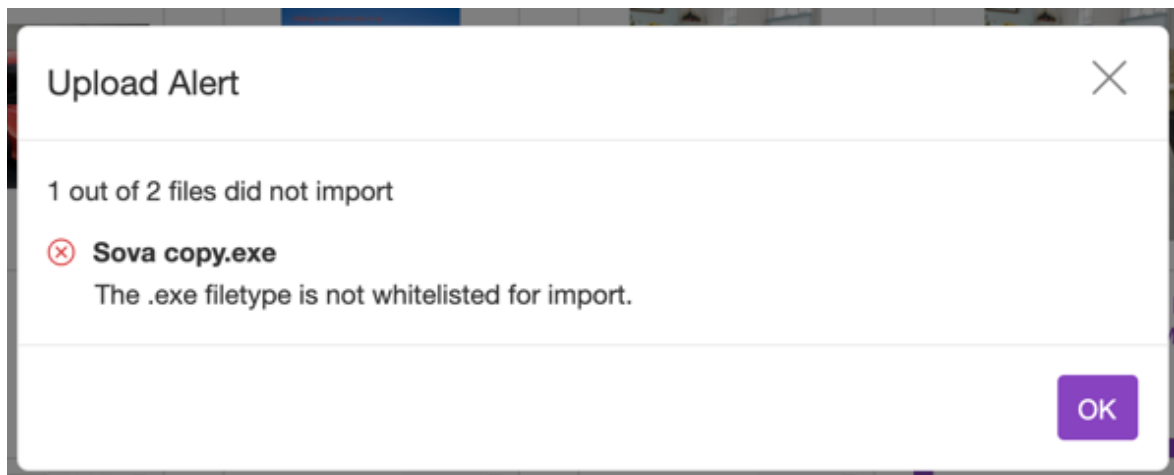
<sup>1</sup> For more information on AWS S3 see <https://aws.amazon.com/s3/> and [https://aws.amazon.com/s3/faqs/#Durability\\_.26\\_Data\\_Protection](https://aws.amazon.com/s3/faqs/#Durability_.26_Data_Protection)

## Key improvements

- Improved upload times especially for larger files
- Upload of folders and sub-folders
- New upload progress indicator



- Clearer messaging on upload alerts



- Upload of files up to 500GB through your web-browser
- Upload up to 1,000 files in one go
- File acceleration for admins uploading over long geographical distances

## Video transcoding improvements

Not only will Brandworkz 8.6 upload your videos faster, but it will also transcode them faster too! You can also track the progress of the transcode in the live preview on the asset detail screen.

It is also now possible to set the file previews within Brandworkz to full HD 1080p or 4K if you have 4K source material so your users can preview the video in full detail before downloading or sharing.

Our Video Download Wizards have a new addition. You can now set them to H265, which is the new emerging standard which produces videos at around half the file size compared to H264 with the same visual result.

There are also some new additions in the file formats of videos that can be uploaded. We have added 3g2, 3gp, 3gpp, asf, avi, f4v, flv, m1v, m2ts, m2v, m4v, mkv, mov, mp4, mpeg, mpg, mxf, webm, wmv. We are also retiring some older formats AVI, FLV, MOV and WEBP.

## Key improvements

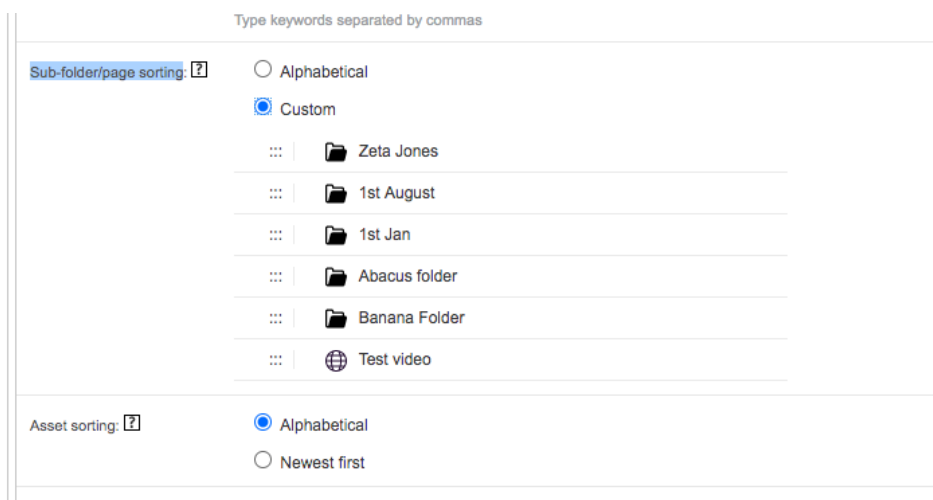
- Faster transcoding
- New transcode progress indicators
- Support for 4K videos
- Support for H265
- Additional transcoding input formats supported

Due to these improvements, we will be retiring Aspera in Brandworkz 8.6.

## Sorting of pages, folders and assets

Another much-requested feature that we are delighted to include in Brandworkz 8.6 is the ability to show folders and CMS pages in a specific order. For example, you might want to have the folder with this months new marketing materials appear first in the list. Admins can now do this with the sub-folder/page sorting option in properties which allows for custom sorting.

Using the new simple drag-and-drop feature, you can sort your folders and webpages to show in any order. You'll also notice the asset sorting option which has been moved from the advanced section into the general section.



## Backup and disaster recovery

At Brandworkz, we hope for the best, plan for the worst. That is why this release sees major improvements in backup and disaster recovery. We are now also performing near real-time file duplication to completely different geo-locations.

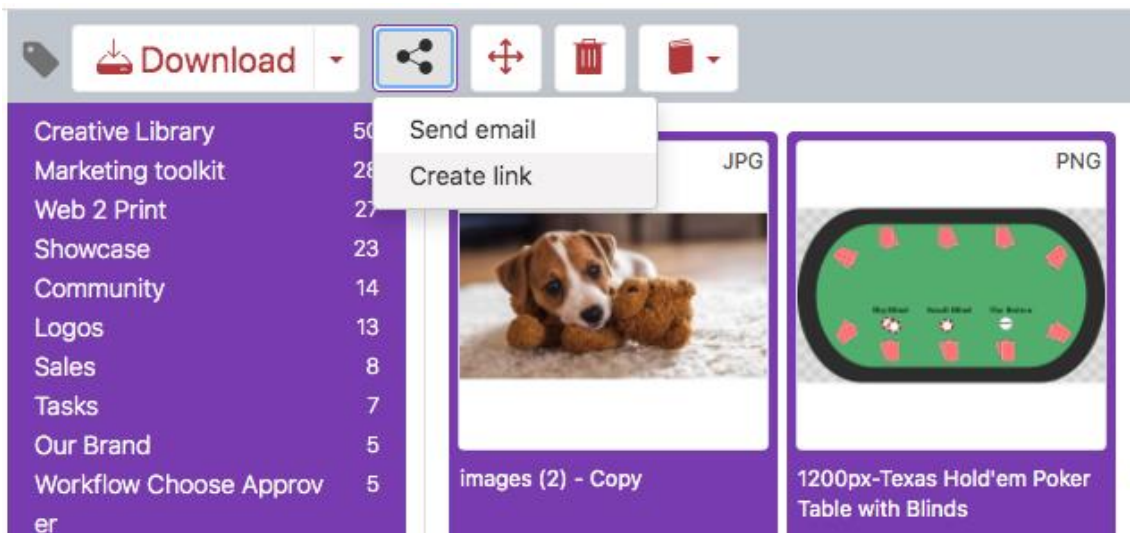
## Shortcut improvements

If the asset you are viewing is a shortcut, you will now notice a couple of differences on the full-screen popup. A link back to the original of the asset in the file information panel called Original Path and a visual icon to indicate you are looking at a shortcut.

File Information	
Asset type	Shortcut
Original filename	1-Creative Tool.png
Original path	<a href="#">Home</a> / ... / 240px

## Create sharing links from search

A widely requested feature was the ability to create share links from the search listing page as well as the DAM. This has now been added to the share button dropdown on the search results page.



## Listing of supported filetypes available for sysadmins

We often get asked what file types can be upload to the platform. There is now a handy page over in the utility tools section that lists out the file types that are allowed. You can also see any file types that have explicitly been disallowed on your instance in the Blacklisted column.

## Export and bulk import publish/expiry dates

The Publish Date and Expiry Date have now been included in the export tags and metadata spreadsheet. Meaning you can easily see which assets in a folder have a publish and/or expiry date as well as quickly applying both to assets using the bulk Import metadata feature.

## Redirect to assets folder after edit

An annoyance to many was the full-screen asset pop up opening after going into edit mode for a single asset. This has now been removed, so after editing you will be back into the folder, saving you a click.

## API Changes

As part of the Brandworkz 8.6 release, we will also be updating the API version to v1.6 which includes the new upload and metadata endpoint mentioned in the release notes above. There are no known breaking changes to the existing endpoints, and you will not need to change anything in your integrations to use the new endpoints as you will automatically be updated to the v1.6 of the API.

**Important note:** In the rare scenario where you have a custom integration that has hardcoded references to the API version v1.5, then the integration will break on upgrade. Reference to the API version must always be done dynamically by obtaining the version from the /getAPIURL endpoint. More details on how to obtain the version can be found in our API documentation (<https://apidocs.brandworkz.com/?version=latest#authentication>). This ensures your integrations are always utilising the correct Brandworkz API version. To make sure your integrations do not break on upgrade, please test them against your staging site prior to the upgrade.

## User listing improvements

There are now two more columns of data for admins on the main user listing screen:

- Date Created – when did the user first register/use the system
- Login Type – if it's an SSO user or not

## Other improvements

- New API endpoints for uploading files to AWS S3
- New API endpoint for importing metadata to an asset
- 3-5 times faster zipping when end-users download multiple files as a zip

## Bug Fixes

- An issue where orphaned shortcuts still showing in search resulting in a blank pop up when opening the assets large preview. If you still find this happening, running the search re-indexing script should fix it. Note also that we will be making further improvements to this in the next version
- An issue where the download form was not always presented to end-users when downloading from search
- An issue where metadata values with quotes were not saving when bulk editing
- An issue where default text could not be removed in the carousel widget
- An issue where download buttons would disappear after the first download in albums
- An issue where specific folders couldn't be added to the brand switcher option
- An issue where you couldn't unrelate related assets
- An issue where embed links with transparency would show a checkered background
- And many more

## Future releases

We know that this release has been a long time coming and we will ensure that future releases will be more frequent so fixes can get deployed quicker.

Also, to give you more visibility and input on future releases, we are busy building a product portal which will contain our roadmap items where you, as a client, will be able to:

- Submit new ideas for vetting
- Vote for ideas/improvements- which will then help us prioritise what matters most!
- See what has recently been released
- See what has been confirmed for the next release
- See what is being considered for future releases

We will be launching that towards the end of August and will, of course, let you know more detail when that happens.